Nixon Sees Halperin, Answers Questions

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SAN CLEMENTE, Jan. 15 (UPI)—Morton Halperin, a former assistant to Henry A. Kissinger, and his attorneys met with former President Nixon today to ask questions under oath about Nixon's authorization of the FBI to wiretap Halperin's home telephone.

Halperin, a former staff member of the National Security Council, brought suit in U.S. District Court in 1973 against Kissinger and other officials charging that the wiretap was an invasion of his civil rights and was conducted for political purposes rather than national security reasons.

Accompanied by three lawyers, Halperin drove from a nearby hotel to the Nixon estate this morning.

Nixon's responses to the questions are to remain sealed until the trial of Halperin's suit.

In an earlier written statement to the court, Nixon acknowledged that he directed surveillance of Halperin and other staff members of the NSC in 1969 in an attempt to find who was leaking classified information to the news media.

The former President said he was acting in his official capacity and that he is immune from civil liability. He also maintains that the statute of linitations to bring suit in the matter has run out.